

Preventing Stormwater Pollution



Best Management Practices for Disposing of Concrete Washout

Concrete washout contains corrosive substances that can pollute surface and groundwater. Fish and other aquatic wildlife can be devastated by the changes in pH, increased toxicity, and reduction in water clarity that is caused by concrete washout pollution.

You can help keep Kentucky's waterways clean by following these Best Management Practices for concrete washout disposal.

- Train employees and contractors to avoid dumping concrete washout on the ground or into storm drains, ditches, streets, or waterways.
- Install signs notifying employees and contractors of Best Management Practices.
- Avoid mixing excess amounts of concrete or cement.
- If storage is necessary, make sure that all concrete and cement are contained and covered to prevent runoff if it rains.
- When possible, recycle concrete wastewater by pumping it back into the mixer.
- Truck washout should ideally occur at the concrete plant. When washout is needed on a construction site, use storage facilities large enough to contain all liquid and concrete waste generated by the operation.
- Wash mixers ONLY in clearly identified washout areas in which water will be contained and disposed of properly.
- Keep washout areas at least 50 feet from storm drains, open ditches, and water bodies.
- Monitor on-site concrete washouts, waste storage, and disposal techniques at least weekly.

Disposing of concrete and cement washout into storm drains, creeks, and waterways is prohibited by law. Violators will be subject to penalties including Notices of Violation, Civil Citations, and fines.

For more information about local water quality issues, please contact:
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